

CLAIMS

1. A method of using a device with a remote control,
the method comprising:

saving previous context;

5 using a communication port included in the device to
receive data via an incompatible format signal while
ignoring errors from the communication port; and

restoring previous context on completion of the act of
using.

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2. The method of Claim 1 further comprising:

locking use of the communication port prior to the act
of using; and

unlocking use of the communication port subsequent to
15 the act of using.

3. The method of Claim 1 wherein, the act of using
comprises:

setting a predetermined baud rate prior to receipt of
20 data.

4. The method of Claim 1 wherein, the act of using
comprises:

setting frequency of a baud rate divisor, depending on
25 the speed of a microprocessor included in the device.

5. The method of Claim 1 wherein, the act of using comprises:

disabling interrupts prior to receipt of data.

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6. The method of Claim 5 wherein, the act of using further comprises:

polling status of receipt of data by the communication port.

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7. The method of Claim 5 wherein, the act of using further comprises:

enabling interrupts subsequent to receipt of data.

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8. The method of Claim 7 wherein, the act of using further comprises:

checking for end of use of remote control prior to the act of enabling.

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9. A device comprising:

a communication port;

a microprocessor coupled to the communication port; and

memory coupled to the microprocessor, the memory being encoded with software for the microprocessor to use the communication port to receive data via an incompatible format

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signal while ignoring errors flagged by the communication port.

10. The device of Claim 9 wherein the memory
5 comprises:

a context store.

11. The device of Claim 9 wherein the memory
comprises:

10 a port lock.

12. The device of Claim 9 wherein the memory is
further encoded with:

a port driver to reject data in response to errors
15 flagged by the communication port.

13. The device of Claim 9 further comprising:

a display coupled to the microprocessor; and

a plurality of keys also coupled to the microprocessor;

20 wherein the device has a form factor sufficiently small
for the device to be held in the palm of a human.